vided by the Board and Rs. 1·10 crores by the State.

Time Allotted for Adult Education and Non-Formal Education

1276. DR. R.K. PODDAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the time allotted per week for telecast on Doordarshan regarding programmes connected with Adult Education and Non-formal Education.

(b) the percentages of such telecast as compared to the total weekly telecast time and cost thereof: and

(c) whether such telecastes are sponsored by Private agencies and if so, what are the details of amount of time and cost borne by such agencies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b) Although specific time has not been allotted on uniform basis for telecast of programmes on Adult Education and Non-formal Education, yet a large number of programmes on these themes are telecast regularly by Doordarshan Kendras. Such programmes fall in the following categories :–

(i) Programmes for Higher Education and ETV.

(ii) Other programmes of Educational nature.

(iii) Adult Literacy programmes.

Since timings, duration and pattern of programmes on Adult Eeducation and Non-formal Education differ from Kendra to Kendra, no percentage of such telecasts could be indicated.

(c) There is no regular sponsorship of educationl programmes telecast over Doordarshan. However, some programmes for rural audiences and health magazines etc. are occasionally sponsored by agencies.

Expansion of Metro Railway in Calcutta

1277. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Overseas Economic Cooperation Funds have proposed to provide necessary economic aid for the speedy implementation and further expansion of the Metro Railway in Calcutta and around ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Improvement of Transport System in Calcutta

1278. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of West Bengal have recently submitted some proposals for the improvement of the transport system in Calcutta.

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposals ; and

(c) what is the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) In

August 1988. Government of West Bengal have sent a composite proposal for a study of metropolitan transport in Calcutta including transways, ferry services, mono rail etc.

(b) The proposal includes study of assessment of the traffic demand; identification of optimum vehicle population projection of future transport planning needs extension of metro railway, completion of circular railway projects; modernisation of tramway; modernisation and upgradation of the existing ferry services; improvement of infrastructural facilities; comprehensive planning and preparation of feasibility studies for development of ferry services.

(c) The Ministry of Finance has been requested to identify a suitable donor country to take up the proposed composite study as it *inter-alia*; involves the upgradation of the existing indigenous technologies in this field.

Modernisation of Employment Exchanges

1279. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that functioning of the Employment Exchanges have been modernised with a view to providing more efficient services to the job seekers as well as employers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) with a view to modernising operations at Employment Exchanges and providing more efficient and objective services to the jobseekers as well as employers, the Central Government introduced from 1986-87 a Centrally sponsored schemes on computerisation of Employment Exchanges. Under the scheme, financial assistance on matching basis was provided to States for computerisation of Employment Exchanges having a Live Register of one lakh or more registrants (either individually or as combined group of exchanges) subject to a maximum of Rs. 1 lakh per exchange or 50 percent of the actual cost of computer system, whichever is less.

From 1988-89, the ceiling of Central assistance has been raised to Rs. 2 lakhs per exchange or 50 per cent of the actual cost of the computer system, whichever is less.

During this period (1986—89) Central assistance was provided for computerisation of 38 large Employment Exchanges of group of Employment Exchanges. In addition, some of the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations had taken steps to computerise some of the Employment Exchanges on their own.

The National Informatics Centre (Planning Commission) have developed a common softwere package for computerisation of Employment Exchanges for adoption throughout the country.

Funds to Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development

1280 SHR PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Council for Advancement of Peoples Action and Rural Technology has been releasing funds to various Voluntary Agencies during the last five years;